



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Utility Relocation Work May Cause Traffic Delays**

Preparation for construction of the planned town's inner loop road, named Col. Jameson Boulevard, from James Madison Highway and North Main Street across Old Rixeyville Road to Virginia Avenue and Sperryville Pike requires the relocation of several utilities that may cause traffic delays and temporary lane closures, town officials warn.

Three electric companies, Columbia Gas, Verizon and other telecom companies must relocate aerial or underground wires or pipelines in order to clear the right-of-way for the inner loop project, said Public Works Director Jim Hoy.

Officials hope the work will be completed sometime in November, weather permitting.

The utility companies must relocate poles, fiber optic wires or pipelines away from the areas where the two roundabouts will be constructed on Old Rixeyville Road and Virginia Avenue and Sperryville Pike. The town must certify that the right-of-way is clear before construction of the inner loop begins.

Rappahannock Electric Cooperative recently completed relocating poles near Old Rixeyville Road this week. The town's Light and Power Department will begin relocating its poles next week.

Dominion Virginia Power must also relocate poles, and Verizon must also reroute underground wiring as well as relocate poles.

Columbia Gas plans to bury new gas lines to upgrade its high-pressure distribution system and also move its pipes in the perimeter of the proposed roundabout. As part of

the relocation project, the gas company will be upgrading its pipeline to Glazier Street, possibly causing traffic delays to residents from nearby neighborhood streets.

“No underground utilities are permitted to go under the roundabout,” said Hoy about why so many utility lines and pipes must be moved.

Once poles are relocated, telecom companies attached to the old poles will reattach their service to the new poles.

Public Works crews will coordinate with the various contractors setting up work zones that meet VDOT requirements.

“There will be intermittent road closures and delays,” said Hoy. “We ask the motoring public to stay alert for the changing roads conditions throughout this project and to allow extra time to reach their destinations.”

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